

Portland, Monday, Jan. 26
[1863]

Dear Mr May,

I know not through whose
courtesy I received a card of invitation
to the Festival of Wednesday evening next,
nor does it matter much, where all are
working together, in the unity of the spirit,
for the realization of the same grand
idea, — but I am moved to express this
to you, if you will allow me, my grateful
acknowledgements for the honor done me,
and my heartfelt sympathy, with the oc-
-casion, Gladly would I be one with you
both at the Festival, and at the Annual

meeting, if it were possible for me to leave home, but it is not, that I deeply regret my inability to be present, there is no need that I should tell you, for you know as well as I, that there is not a live abolitionist in the country, who would not regret to be absent from this year's meetings, of all others - this year of Jubilee,

I also regret to know that Portland will do nothing, or next to nothing, towards the pecuniary success of this year's Festival, In fact we have never been able to do much - ~~and~~ ^{and} I think our little contri-

- bution would hardly be missed at all
- if it had no other significance than
its money value, but as we all believe
that the sentiment wh. underlies and
prompts the offering, is of more value
than the offering itself, I want to
tell you why even our motto is with-
- holden now. It's simply because we
believe we can make it more imme-
- diately productive of good, by putting
it into another department of our great
work,

Multitudes of freedmen and women
- you know, are coming in extreme des-

-stitutions within our lines, and we
 are trying to do something for them
 tho' our best endeavors can be to the
 need, but as this drops to the ocean.
 Perhaps others may think with us,
 your receipts be something less, from the
 cause, but just let us get these poor
 -tions, into a state of tolerable comfort
 and we too will help raise money for
 support of the Anti-Slavery gospel, for
 -here our missionary work is yet far from
 completion. There will long be need to cry
 and spare not, for as it looks to me the spirit
 of Slavery is still rampant, With kind regards
 to yourself, and all the anti-slavery hosts, I am
 Sincerely your friend, E. Mounts